



TIPPECANNEWS

Traffic Signal Interconnect Project

Tipp City awarded the Traffic Signal Interconnect Project to Perram Electric, Inc. of Wadsworth, Ohio at their June 1st City Council meeting. Eight intersections from Co. Rd. 25A to Hyatt Street will be upgraded with new LED traffic signals, interconnecting them with fiber for signal timing coordination, installing a camera at I-75 for monitoring traffic congestion, and installing a central computer control system. The intersections of Garber, Tippecanoe, & Hyatt will be upgraded with traffic signal poles & mast arms, including decorative historical lights matching our StreetScape decorative street lights. Tipp City will receive up to 58% funding from a CMAQ Federal Highway Grant (\$458,000) and up to 24% (\$250,000) funding from OPWC for this project. The remaining 18% of the cost of this project will come from Tipp City Electric Funds. Perram Electric's bid was \$818,790 and will take up to 16 weeks to manufacture the traffic signal poles. Therefore construction will not begin until September, with some foundation base installation occurring in late July. ❁

Fireworks

Don't miss our fireworks display on July 4th at 10 pm at City Park. The rain date is July 5th. ❁

Fire Department

Did you know in 1872, the Village of Tippecanoe organized a volunteer bucket brigade, or the first Fire Department. Except for Chief Steve Kessler, who is now a part time employee, **all firefighters of the Tipp City Fire Department continue to be volunteers.** The majority of the members of the Fire Department have grown up or worked in Tipp City for most of their lives. Tipp City firefighters have a strong bond to the Department and the community and average well over 12 years service with the Department. Many of the firefighters are city employees and are allowed to leave their jobs to answer fire calls which allows the Fire Department to respond with adequate personnel. This is a major problem for many volunteer departments during the work day. Due to the large amount of training required and the increasing number of runs, the Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services are separate departments. The Fire Department responds to over 430 calls per year and EMS to over 1,200 calls per year. The State of Ohio now requires fire departments to complete continuing education. Our Fire Department employees attend two training meetings every month, plus extra training on some weekends. The Department trains for many different emergencies including fires, water rescue, ice rescue, auto accidents, hazardous materials, and weapons of mass destruction.

In 2005 the fire department was graded by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and improved its rating to Class 4. This puts the Tipp City Fire Department among the top 11% of fire departments graded by ISO. This ISO rating can be important in lowering the cost of fire insurance for residents of Tipp City. The Tipp City Fire Department is continuously working to provide the best fire protection possible for its citizens. ❁

Summer Reminders

With summer in full swing, here are a few reminders that residents should be aware of:

1. No person owning or having control of a dog shall permit it to run at large in any street, alley, public park, other public place or unenclosed property. Collection and proper disposal of pet excrement is required.
2. Garage sales are limited to 3 per year at any residential location. On garage sale sign is allowed on the property where the sale is being held, not in the curb lawn. Signs are not allowed to be posted on utility poles or traffic signs, but must be placed on private property. No permit is required.
3. Check with the Planning/Zoning office, 667-6305, if you are considering building a deck, fencing, a shed, a pool or adding to your home.
4. Weeds and grass must be mowed and maintained at a level not to exceed 10" in height.
5. Boats, campers, trailers, or recreational vehicles are permitted to be parked in a front driveway for 48 hours in any 7 day period. ❁

State Auditor's Award

The State Auditor has recently presented City officials with the "Making Your Tax Dollars Count" award for their fiscal year 2007 audit. Fewer than five percent of all Ohio government agencies are eligible for this award. This is the highest and most prestigious award that is handed out by the State Auditor. To be eligible for the award, a government must first participate in the voluntary Comprehensive Annual Financial Report program of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and receive a clean audit by state auditors. Tipp City has participated in the CAFR program since 2000. ❁

STAY INFORMED! Subscribe to receive City news updates by email at www.tippcityohio.gov.

The Chronicles of Honey Creek

"Beautiful but Complicated"

By: Leigh Ann Gerardi McCulla

HCWA Director and OSU Ohio Watershed Academy

Mother Nature's beautiful and balanced designs can be very difficult to duplicate. In our endeavor of understanding how the importance and health of our local streams help keep our drinking water clean, we need to know what "stream balance" looks like. The Ohio EPA ranks the health of a stream on what levels of biology it is able to support. This premise stems from the understanding that if a stream is able to create a healthy aquatic habitat that can support delicate species, then the stream is healthy and the water is clean.

In order for us to effectively repair our streams that are out of balance, it is important for us to understand Mother Nature's design. One of the many purposes of a stream includes the transportation of sediment and it does this through the use of flowing water. Healthy aquatic habitats are created when there is the right amount of flow, kinds of sediment for the stream bed conditions, clean water, temperature and many other factors. Very complicated mathematical equations are needed to help us calculate how this is done.

A simple way of understanding the relationship of sediment transport and the role it plays in healthy aquatic habitats is its ability to create riffles, pools, glides and runs. These are some essential ingredients needed for our intolerant species to survive. It takes Mother Nature awhile to create this balance and it takes us even longer. But balance is not only desired, it's a necessary element that affects our drinking water quality. ♣

Enter the Big Tree Contest!

Looking for the Biggest Ash Tree in Tipp City. Call 667-6305 or see www.tippcityohio.gov for an entry form. Deadline is Sept. 7, 2009. ♣

Tipp Monroe Community Services

Don't miss out on summer fun!

There are classes and adventures available through Tipp Monroe Community Services. Call 667-8631 or go to www.tmcomservices.org for more information. ♣

Historic Tipp City

This is another article in an informational series focused on Tipp City's downtown historic district. In past articles, we've noted that Tipp's historic district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and related the necessity of the preservation of this remarkable area of historic properties. In this article, we'll discuss the Downtown Tipp City Partnership (DTCP). This local non-profit organization (501c3 – pending) is geared towards maintaining & revitalizing our historic downtown area through use of the *Main Street Approach*. The Main Street Four-Point Approach™ is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. It is a common-sense way to address the variety of issues and problems that face traditional business districts. The underlying premise of the Main Street approach is to encourage economic development within the context of historic preservation in ways appropriate to today's marketplace. The Main Street Approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community. In upcoming articles, we'll expand upon how the DTCP uses the *Main Street Approach* to strengthen Tipp City. For more information on the DTCP, visit their website at www.dtcp.org. ♣

Tippecanoe Family Aquatic Center

Family Fun Days at the Tippecanoe Family Aquatic Center will be held July 15th and August 12th from noon to 3 p.m. Members will be admitted at 11 a.m. Dr. Smart and friends will perform magic, do face painting, and patrons will see "Wally the Wabbit" the world's only live performing wabbit. The Shark Squad from the Newport Aquarium will be at the TFAC on July 15th and August 12th from noon to 2 p.m., with members only being admitted at 11 a.m. Also be sure to join us at our July 4th Bash from 1 to 5 p.m. ♣



Important City Contacts

- **Automated Attendant/Direct Connect**
669-TIPP
- **Police, Fire and EMS (EMERGENCY)**
9-1-1
- **Miami County Communications Center (Non-Emergency)**
440-9911
- **Police (Non-Emergency)**
667-3112
- **Fire and EMS (Non-Emergency)**
667-9199 or 667-1680
- **Utility Billing**
667-8424
- **Planning/Zoning**
667-6305
- **Engineering and Utilities**
667-6305
- **Refuse Collection (Waste Management)**
866-695-3433
- **Service Center (Parks and Streets)**
667-8234
- **City Manager's Office**
667-8425
- **Clerk of Council**
667-8425
- **Construction Notice Update**
667-6293